

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 TRSE-00 COME-00

EB-11 OMB-01 DRC-01 /159 W  
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P R 031837Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6056

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14141

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, RH, US, UK

SUBJECT: BYRD AMENDMENT ON RHODESIAN CHROME

1. EMBOFF WAS CALLED IN BY BYATT, HEAD OF RHODESIAN DEPT. AT FCO, WHO SAID HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS TO INSURE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S VIEW ON IMPORTANCE OF REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT WAS UNDERSTOOD BY THE US ADMINISTRATION:

A) LEAVING ASIDE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES, REPEAL COULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT AND SALUTARY PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT IN RHODESIA AT THIS JUNCTURE WHEN DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SETTLEMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM ARE UNDERWAY.

B) BOTH BRITISH AND US RELATIONS WITH OTHER AFRICAN NATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE CONTEXT OF UN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE, WOULD BE GREATLY IMPROVED BY REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT.

2. BYATT SAID THAT CONSIDERATION "A" ABOVE WAS UPPER-CONFIDENTIAL

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MOST IN THINKING OF HMG AT THIS POINT AND EMPHASIZED

THAT SOLE PURPOSE OF CALLING IN EMBOFF WAS TO MAKE SURE THAT POINTS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE IN GENERAL TERMS IN PAST DISCUSSIONS WITH US OFFICIALS WERE PUT SPECIFICALLY ON RECORD NOW THAT SENATE VOTE ON BYRD AMENDMENT IS IMMINENT. HE ADDED THAT IMMEDIATE IMPETUS FOR TRANSMITTING THIS VIEW TO USG WAS REPORT JUST RECEIVED FROM BRITISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO THE EFFECT THAT BECAUSE OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ON WORLD SCENE, VOTE IN SENATE WOULD BE MUCH CLOSER THAN ORIGINALLY ANTICIPATED, CASTING DOUBT ON LIKELIHOOD THAT REPEAL WOULD CLEAR EVEN THIS FIRST HURDLE. BYATT ASKED IF EMBASSY HAD LATE READING ON PROSPECTS FOR REPEAL AND TIMING OF CONSIDERATIONS OF THIS ISSUE BY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT UNFORTUNATELY WE HAD NO RECENT INFORMATION. COMMENT: IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD HAVE CURRENT READING ON HOW REPEAL EFFORT STANDS IN BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** APARTHEID, CHROMIUM, EMBARGOES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** mcintyresh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Authority:** mcintyresh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16-Jul-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <27-Aug-2001 by mcintyresh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BYRD AMENDMENT ON RHODESIAN CHROME  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ETRD, RH, US, UK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005